

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (Original) A live bacterium preparation or food containing a lactic acid bacterium used for normalizing intraoral microflora, which comprises a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius*, as an active ingredient.
2. (Original) A live bacterium preparation or food containing a lactic acid bacterium for prevention and treatment of gingivitis, periodontitis and periodontal disease, which comprises a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius*, as an active ingredient.
3. (Original) A live bacterium preparation or food containing a lactic acid bacterium for prevention or treatment of dental caries, which comprises a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius*, as an active ingredient.
4. (Original) A live bacterium preparation or food containing a lactic acid bacterium for prevention of generation of halitosis and elimination of halitosis, which comprises a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius*, as an active ingredient.
5. (Currently Amended) The live bacterium preparation or food containing a lactic acid bacterium according to claim 1 ~~anyone of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the lactic acid bacterium is *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974).

6. (Original) A lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974).

7. (Original) A cell obtained by pure culture of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974) .

8. (Original) A dry cell obtained by drying a cell of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974).

9. (Original) Use of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974), for preparation of a live bacterium preparation or food containing a lactic acid bacterium.

10. (Original) A composition comprising a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974), and an active ingredient having a mechanism of action different from that of the strain.

11. (Original) The composition according to claim 10, which comprises a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974), and a substance selected from sugar alcohols and oligosaccharides.